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# Department of Labor State of Georgia



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## **PRESS ADVISORY**

For immediate release  
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### **Attorney General Baker Announces Indictment of Fulton County Restaurant Owner On Tax and Theft Charges**

Attorney General Thurbert Baker announced today that Mahfuz "Jimmy" Hussain, owner and operator of the Rhea's Take Out Food chain in Fulton County, was indicted by the Fulton County Grand Jury on 8 felony counts and 12 misdemeanor counts. The charges stemmed from Hussain's failure to remit sales tax to the state for items sold at his four businesses, failure to file reports or keep records of his sales for sales tax purposes, and for failure to file income tax returns.

The businesses at the center of the charges are four Roswell area hamburger restaurants: Rhea's Take Out Food, Rhea's Take Out Food II, Rhea's Take Out Food III, and Rhea's Take Out Food IV. The sales tax related crimes occurred at one or more of the businesses during calendar years 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004. Hussain failed to file income tax returns for calendar years 2002 and 2003.

The charges came as a result of an investigation by the Georgia Department of Revenue. The investigation determined that Hussain had failed to remit sales tax to the State. He also kept no sales records as required by law, failed to file the returns for withholding for his

employees and had not filed or paid personal income tax for calendar years 2002 and 2003. On a mortgage application Hussain filled out which was discovered during the course of the investigation, Hussain reported a monthly income of over \$9,000.00.

A bench warrant was issued yesterday for Hussain's arrest, and it he turned himself over to authorities earlier today. Bond on the charges was set at \$30,000.00. Assistant Attorney General Cassandra Schansman is handling the prosecution of Hussain, and the case was investigated by Andrea Shepherd of the Georgia Department of Revenue.